



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270  
January 11, 2022

Board Members Present

Duane Mitchell  
Shane Gorder  
Loren Young  
Melissa Boyer  
Ray Trumpower  
Terry Meldahl

Advisory Members Present

Brittney Petersen  
Jacquelyn Free  
Julie Brodhead  
Stephanie Ler  
Heidi Moran  
Jeff Hintz  
Brandon Roth

Board Members Absent

Kari Johnson

Advisory Members Absent

John Dynneson  
Janet Christoffersen

Guests:

2:01 PM Shane Gorder called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

*Reviewed Agenda:* The agenda was approved. Terry Meldahl made a motion to approve the agenda and Loren Young 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

*Minutes:* The November 9, 2021 minutes were approved with no changes. Duane Mitchell made a motion to approve the November minutes with no changes, Ray Trumpower 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

**Health Department Administrator Report**

*General Health Department Updates –*

- Belinda DeVierno is our newest staff member joining our communicable disease team. Belinda is working part time as a contact tracer to assist with COVID-19 follow-up.
- AmeriCorps is welcoming three new members this month – Delanie Weber is serving in Sheridan County helping to bolster their Behavioral Health Coalition, Rachel will be joining Lace and serving at the Dawson County Health Department at the end of January, and Haley Genster is serving at the Valley County Health Department in Glasgow. Currently we have a total of 10 AmeriCorps members.

- RCHD continues to offer COVID-19 walk- in clinics each Tuesday from 12:30-3. We accommodate individuals before and after if necessary. We are very appreciative of our community volunteers that help each week.
- In addition, RCHD continues to host Pfizer Family Fridays the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, targeted towards the age group of 5-11. These have been successful clinics, averaging 30 individuals on each Friday held.
- We have continued to see more individuals for boosters than first doses each week. This trend is consistent with other Montana counties.

*Performance Management* – RCHD received positive feedback on Section II of our Annual Report. Highlights of the comments were acknowledgements for our continued work to engage all staff in quality improvement efforts through training and projects, gathering and being responsive to customer and community feedback, and praise for being asked to share our expertise in our Asthma and Emergency Preparedness programs at statewide conferences. This coming year, our QI team and all staff will continue to work on quality improvements, including population health outcomes tracking.

**Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead, RN - New reporting year (2022 Jan 2- Dec 31, 2022)**

- See Spreadsheet for Disease Reports
- Richland County Flu -25
- MT State flu – 27 hospitalizations, 1 death

**COVID -19 Cases for 2022:**

- See Spreadsheet for COVID Comparisons from local level to global
- 2165 cases, 30 deaths, 6 hospitalizations total
- Richland county had 28 people hospitalized since report at the Nov 9, 2021, meeting
- COVID cases for Richland County Schools as of 12-31-2021 for school year
  - 123 cases

**Vaccinations**

Vaccinations for State of ND:

11/9/2021: 836,490 doses given, 57.3% with one dose and 53.8% fully vaccinated

1/10/2022: 990,009 doses given. 59.9% with one dose, 57.1 fully vaccinated

Vaccinations for State of MT:

10/12/2021: 1,037,832 total doses given; 494,537 persons fully immunized for 54%

11/9/2021: 1,138,643 total doses given; 510,517 persons fully immunized = 55%

1/10/2022: 1,348,068 doses given, 542, 930 fully vaccinated = 53% (change due to adding younger age to eligible population)

Vaccination for Richland County (Eligible population 8,978, moved to 10,310 as 11/15/2021)  
10/12/2021: 7,046 total doses given, 3,631 fully vaccinated, 1<sup>st</sup> dose administered 3902, 40% fully vaccinated

11/9/2021: 7,625 total doses given, 3,805 fully vaccinated, 1<sup>st</sup> dose administered 4,018, (42%) fully vaccinated (Map updates once a week for county totals)

1/10/2022: 9,268 total given, 4,060 fully vaccinated, 4,311 with 1<sup>st</sup> does (39%) (drop due to eligible population increase)

**Public Health Emergency Preparedness:**

- Deliverables for Quarter 3 are due. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Julie will be completing an After-Action report either on the COVID clinics or the mass flu clinic.
- POD Box inventory.
- Public Health Law Training for Food Investigations for a Tabletop exercise.
- Risk Communication Improvement plan

**Health Officer Report:** Jacquelyn Free reported that she has seen influenza A, strep, and COVID cases that have been minor.

**Sanitarian Report:** Stephanie handed out COVID-19 vaccine update graph on the percent eligible with at least one dose and explained the information to the board. She mentioned that in 2021 the Health Department gave 5,751 total COVID vaccinations. This is in addition to regular child and adult vaccines. Commissioner Gorder signed the Cooperative Agreement which ensures payment for inspections for 2022. Stephanie spoke about information that was sent to licensed establishments with their licenses that included information on Senate Bill 199 (homemade food) and the sale of marijuana edibles.

**County Attorney Report:** Absent

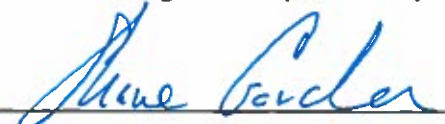
**Old Business:** No old business

**New Business:** Shane mentioned that an individual stopped by their office seeking a business permit and for assistance completing a form. The County does not issue business permits. She was referred to the Department of Revenue for assistance.

**Public Comment:** None

Adjourn at 2:40 pm.

*Next meeting: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm*



Shane Gorder, Commissioner



Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary

